Gets 8 Point Buck

Carol Elder, right above, killed an eight-point buck on Thursday of last week while grouse hunting. The buck weighed approximately 160 pounds. Shown with Elder is Kenneth Dunn, also of Appomattox County, who was hunting with him.

Senator To Co-Sponsor Bill For Refundable Deposits On Throwaway Cans

At a news conference on Monday, Dec. 8, Virginia State Senators Clive DuVal (32nd District) and Charles Waddell (33rd District) announced that at the 1976 session of the General Assembly they will co-sponsor a bill providing for refundable deposits on throw-away beer and soft drink containers. Their bill is supported by the Conservation Council of Virginia and many other citizen and conservation groups.

The legislation calls for a minimum 5-cent refundable deposit on all beer and soft drink containers, effective July 1, 1977, allowing industry 18 months to adjust to the new law.

Basically, the bill is an expansion of the existing deposit system on reusable containers. The deposit is part of the price paid by the purchaser of a beverage and is held by the retailer. When a retailer gets a container back, he returns the deposit, delivers the container to the distributor, and is reimbursed for the deposit and paid a small handling fee by th. distributor.

The bill also provides for redemption centers, which may be established by retailers or local governments or as private enterprises, to receive containers and turn them over to distributors in return for payment of the deposit and handling fees.

"Our proposal is the first step in discouraging the manufacture of wasteful throwaways and encouraging the use of refillable containers, which can provide substantial savings for the consumer on every purchase of beer or soft drinks," DuVal and Waddell said.

"This is not only a consumer bill, it is also a measure which will conserve energy and natural resources and save taxes," the two Senators pointed out. "It incorporates the incentive concept by encouraging any finder of a can or bottle to turn it in for the deposit, thus promoting recycling and reuse. It also benefits those who want to make a little money by picking up cans and bottles."

"The advantages of the bill are many," said DuVal. "First, it reduces litter by creating an economic motivation for picking up containers. It produces this result without the imposition of fines or other penalties and does not require a huge governmental program. Our bill will cost the State and taxpayers nothing, except for minor administration costs. Second, the bill helps guarantee a higher level of recycling of materials such as aluminum, which are mainly imported. Third, it will save energy and natural resources used in the manufacture of throwaway beverage containers. Fourth, it will reduce the solid waste load, thus easing demand on sanitary landfills and lowering local government spending for collection and disposal of cans and bottles. And finally, it will reduce injuries to people and livestock and damage to farm equipment, and automobile, truck, and bus tires caused by broken bottles and metal cans."

The two Senators emphasized that the refundable deposit bill is designed for Virginia alone and that it does not ban any type of container or container part. "The Oregon Bottle Bill, for example, deliberately and specifically banned the pull-tab can," they said. "This bill does not. We believe that the undesirable features of pull-tab containers should be handled by separate legislation."

"Of course, our bottle bill is not the whole answer to the problem of litter, but it will virtually eliminate **hard-core** litter like glass and aluminum, which never deteriorate or degrade naturally and which form a substantial portion of litter in fields, yards and along highways," DuVal and Waddell said.

"Finally, a number of local governments in the Washington metropolitan area, including Fairfax, are considering legislation to deal with throwaway beverage containers and are preparing to take action. We encourage them to join Loudoun in so doing, to go forward on a regional basis and not to wait for a statewide law," DuVal said.

Senator Waddell says, "The district I represent is a politically diversified area ranging from the hills of Western Loudoun to Vienna and the new Town of Reston. There is general awareness of the problems foisted on the taxpayer by the non-returnable beverage container and active, vocal support for legislation curbing this abuse. The volunteer efforts for litter control need to be reenforced by financial incentives to return the used beverage containers. Based on the Loudoun experience and on the wide interest and support of my constituency on this environmental issue, I am proud to co-sponsor this legislation in 1976."

Law Defines Access To Personal Government Records

"A citizen can gain access to information about himself, or herself, and obtain a copy of all or any portion of it and correct or amend it," an offical from Washington D.C. reported recently to James R. Ford, Jr., Chairman of the Appomattox County ASC Committee.

Mr. Ford said ASCS offices are receiving explanations about the Privacy Act of 1974 that went into effect at the end of last September because such offices maintain some records on employees, committeemen, farmers and certain individuals who do business with ASCS. He indicated that James H. Dinwiddie is coordinator of the privacy and freedom of information effort, and Director of the Data Systems Div. of the Agriculture Department's ASCS agency.

Dinwiddie said, "The Privacy Act affects each one of us as citizens. You now can determine what personal records are collected, maintained, used or disseminated by any Federal agency. And additional disclosures without the individual's consent are prohibited."

"Regarding your social security number, no Federal, State or local government agency can require you to disclose your number, unless they had legal requirement for it prior to Jan. 1, 1975," Dinwiddie said.

The explanation noted that even for existing requirements, you must be told the authority for the disclosure and what use will be made of the number.

Dinwiddie noted that except for the social security number provision, the Privacy Act of 1974 applies only to Federal records systems. It does, however, create a Privacy Protection Study Commission which will recommend legislation covering the private sector.

"We will probably be seeing continued legislative interest in what Justice Louis Brandeis once called 'the right most valued by civilized man . . . the right to be let alone,'" Dinwiddie said.

Old Home With New Look

Blacksburg–Do you know of an old house you like and could live in comfortably? A Virginia Tech Extension home furnishings specialist suggests some do-it-yourself efforts that might help make such a house more livable.

Think before you purchase even one piece of furniture, suggest Katherine L. Hable, the Extension specialist. You might consider buying furniture that will last. Select colors that are subdues. You may want to change the accessories from time to time. It's best not to select very bright or dark colors when a mixture of furniture is being used.

Select lots of plants. You can even use these as stage props. They can be moved from room to room and healthy, green growing plants used in a variety of interesting containers can really stimulate conversation.

If the space is small use a minimum of furniture, Hable, as associate professor in Tech's College of Home Economics, advises. Two sofas could form a conversation area. Chrome and glass tables take up very little visual space. Chrome accessories reflect light and pattern. Consider using graphics for the focal point. You can make your own, using adhesive-backed foil and paint. "Combining an Oriental type rug and a plexiglas panel hanging from the ceiling might be considered for cozy spaced eating area," Habel said.

Many old homes have bathrooms that look ordinary. "Be daring in design here. Consider a wallpaper; how about a red, reflective wallpaper? Replace the old-style standard cabinet with a mirror. Look for an old frame and have the mirror cut to fit."

If you like to look outside, use skinny, slatted blinds instead of heavy draperies. Use portable television instead of bulky console. Portable tak less space, Habel noted.

"Give a special look, some vitality, to the old house," Habel urged. "Keep the furnishings and color simple so you can change things around. Good design is a good design whatever the price tag. It pays off when you select furniture and accessories you can live with for years to come."

Tech To Conduct Horse Science Schools

Blacksburg–Virginia Tech's Extension Division will conduct five horse science schools across the state during February, March and April. The schools will be held at five locations, with 10 sessions at each location.

Arden N. Huff, Tech Extension horse specialist, listed the school locations and starting dates: Fairfax, Feb. 16, Mondays, Newport News, Feb. 17, Tuesdays, Chesapeake, Feb. 18, Wednesdays, Rustburg, Feb. 19, Thursdays, Big Stone Gap, Feb. 23, Mondays.

Open to all interested in horses, the schools are regional and may be attended by out-of-state horsemen as well. Schools will be limited in size and enrollment will be on a first-come basis, Huff said.

Prospective students should obtain enrollment forms from their nearest Virginia Tech Extension office. The form, along with a check in the amount of $25, payable to CEC/VPI&SU, should be returned by Feb. 4 to Adult Registrar, CEC, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va. 24061.

Late registrations must first be confirmed by calling (703)951-5182.

Huff, an associate professor of animal science at Tech, said topics for the horse science schools will include selection, behavior, unsoundnesses, preventative medicine, parasites, hoof care, shoeing, corrective shoeing, economics, basic nutrition,reproduction, applied nutrition, basic genetics, pastures forages and management.

Twelve Tech Extension specialists and others will conduct the schools, he said.

The Tech specialist said students will receive a 140-page horse science handbook and 10 publications and will be awarded two (2.0) continuing education unit credits by Tech's Donaldson Brown Center for Continuing Education.

Additional information on the horse science schools, may be obtained from the nearest Virginia Tech Extension office or by writing A. N. Huff, Agnew Hall, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va. 24061.

SWEDISH CROWN OF CANDLES

In Sweden, the Christmas season traditionally begins on December 13, when a young girl in each house assumes the role of St. Lucia, wearing a white robe and a crown of lighted candles. The custom goes back to Viking times when, under the old calendar, the night of December 12-13 was the longest of the year. The Lucia girl symbolizes returning light.

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